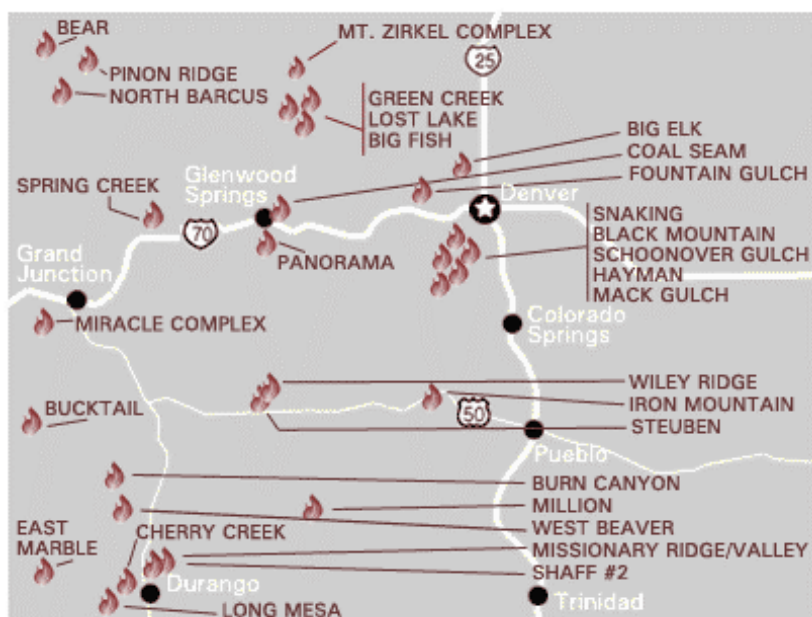


Colorado Wildfires 2002



Snaking fire

Started **April 23** near Platte Canyon High School near Bailey. At the fire's height, more than 1,000 homes were evacuated.
 Acres burned: 2,590
 Cause: Human
 Structures lost: No buildings were destroyed.
 Cost: \$2.6 m.

Breen fire

Started **April 29**, 25 miles southeast of Durango.
 Acres burned: 180
 Cause: Lightning
 Structures lost: 1 and several damaged
 Cost: not available

(Map of some of the fires from the Rocky Mountain News)

Cuerno Verde fire

Started **April 30**, 10 miles south of Westcliffe in Custer County. Forced the evacuation of two subdivisions.
 Acres burned: 388
 Structures lost: 2 homes
 Cause: Trash fire spread out of control.
 Cost: not available

Black Mountain fire

Started **May 5**, 40 miles southwest of Denver. At the fire's height, 2,400 homes were evacuated and 140 firefighters battled the flames.
 Acres burned: 345
 Cause: Human
 Structures lost: 0
 Cost: \$1.1 m

Bucktail fire

Started **May 19** about eight miles northeast of Nucla in western Montrose County.
 Acres burned: 2,200
 Cause: Lightning
 Structures lost: 0
 Cost: not available

Cow Camp fire

Started **May 21**, 8.5 miles south of Mancos, Colorado
 Acres Burned: 340
 Cause: Lightning
 Structures lost: 0
 Cost: \$0.5 m

Schoonover fire

Started **May 22** near Deckers. The fire was fully contained on May 27.
 Acres burned: 3,860
 Cause: Lightning
 Structures lost: 13 structures, including four homes and several buildings at a youth camp.
 Cost: \$2.2 m.

Trinidad Complex

Started **June 1**. This complex was made up of a number of fires including Fisher (James John) and Spring (Springer) 8 miles south of Stonewall, Colorado. The Spring Fire started in New Mexico and crossed the state line into Colorado. The James John Fire started about 9 miles southeast of Trinidad, Colorado.

Acres burned: 32,896

Cause: Lightning

Cost: \$1.1 m

Iron Mountain fire

Started southwest of Canon City on **June 2**.

Acres burned: 4,400

Cause: Human

Structures lost: 100 cabins, A-frames, doublewides, campers and fifth-wheel trailers.

Cost: \$7.5 m.

Coal Seam fire

Started **June 8** four miles west of Glenwood Springs.

Acres burned: 12,209

Cause: Underground coal fire

Structures lost: 29 homes, 14 outbuildings

Cost: \$7.3 m

Hayman fire

Started **June 8** in Park County, four miles northwest of Lake George in Pike National Forest, and spread into Jefferson, Douglas and Teller counties.

Acres burned: 137,760

Cause: Illegal fire

Structures lost: 133 homes, one business and 466 other structures destroyed.

Injuries: 3

Cost: \$39.1 m

Miracle Complex fire

The Miracle Complex involved two fires, the Dierich Creek Fire that burned 2,533 acres and the Long Canyon Fire that burned 1418 acres. Both started **June 8** in Mesa County.

Acres burned: 3,951

Cause: Illegal campfire/lightning

Injuries: 3

Cost: \$1.7 m.

Missionary Ridge fire

Started **June 9** in a ditch beside Missionary Ridge Road, about 15 miles northeast of Durango. The fire forced 2,100 people to flee at various times.

Acres burned: 70,485

Cause: Human

Structures lost: 56 residences and 27 outbuildings

Injuries: 48

Deaths: 1

Cost: \$40.4 m

Million fire

Started **June 19** two miles south of South Fork.

Acres burned: 9,346

Cause: Spontaneous combustion of illegally-dumped sod

Structures lost: 11 residences destroyed, 7 residences damaged, 2 outbuildings destroyed

Injuries: 2

Cost: \$9.4 m

Pinon Ridge fire

Started **June 22** near Elk Springs, about 50 miles west of Craig.

Acres burned: 2,400

Cause: Lightning

Structures lost: 0

Cost: \$0.9 m

Spring Creek fire

Started **June 22**, about 7 miles north of New Castle.

Acres burned: 13,493

Cause: Lightning

Injuries: 8

Cost: \$6.98 m

West Beaver fire

Started **June 22**, 15 miles west of Telluride near Lone Cone Mountain.

Acres burned: 580

Cause: Lightning

Structures lost: 0

Injuries: 1

Cost: \$1.5 m

Wiley Ridge fire

Started **June 23** three miles northwest of Gunnison.

Acres burned: 1,084

Cause: Lightning

Structures lost: 0

Cost: \$0.15 m

Mack Gulch fire

Started **June 25**, south of the Hayman Fire.

Acres burned: 311

Cost: n/a

Valley fire

Started **June 25** in La Plata County, west of the Missionary Ridge Fire.

Acres burned: 406

Cause: Unknown

Structures lost: At least six residences lost.

Cost: n/a

Bear fire

Started **June 27**, 20 miles northeast of Dinosaur.

Acres burned: 4,800

Cause: Human

Structures lost: 0

Cost: \$1.1 m.

Fountain Gulch fire

Started **June 29**, one mile northeast of Idaho Springs.

Acres burned: 240

Cause: Lightning

Structures lost: 0

Cost: N/A

Lost Lakes fire

Started **July 8**, 20 miles west of Yampa.

Acres burned: 5,538

Cause: Lightning

Cost: not available

Burn Canyon fire

Started **July 9**, about six miles southwest of Norwood in the Uncompahgre National Forest.

Acres burned: 31,300

Cause: Lightning

Injuries: 2

Cost: \$5.75 m

Steuben fire

Started **July 9**, about 10 miles west of Gunnison on Bureau of Land Management property and in the Gunnison National Forest.

Acres burned: 693

Cause: Lightning

Cost: \$0.84 m

Mt. Zirkel Complex fire

The complex consists of the Burn Ridge and Hinman fires. The Hinman Fire started **July 12**, 25 miles north of Steamboat Springs. The Burn Ridge Fire started August 12 in the same area.

Acres burned: 31,016

Cause: Lightning

Injuries: 14

Cost: \$13.3 m

East Marble fire

Started **July 14**, one mile south of McElmo Canyon on the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation southwest of Cortez.

Acres burned: 366

Cause: Lightning

Structures lost: 1 outbuilding

Cost: \$0.26 m

Green Creek fire

Started **July 14**, 15 miles southeast of Steamboat Springs.

Acres burned: 4,400

Cause: Lightning

Injuries: 1

Cost: \$3.04 m

Big Elk fire

Started **July 17**, near Pinewood Springs.

Acres burned: 4,413

Cause: Ignited by a Jeep with mechanical problems

Structures lost: 1 unoccupied cabin

Injuries: 3

Deaths: 3

Cost: \$4.15 m

Big Fish fire

Location: Started **July 19**, 34 miles southwest of Steamboat Springs.

Acres burned: 17,056

Cause: Lightning

Structures lost: Trappers Lake Lodge, seven cabins and a barn

Cost: \$1.9 m

Long Mesa fire

Started **July 29** in the Mesa Verde National Park.

Acres burned: 2,601

Cause: Lightning

Structures lost: Three homes and four outbuildings.

Injuries: 4

Cost: \$1.25 m

North Barcus fire

Started **July 30**, 20 miles east of Rangely.

Acres burned: 6,000

Cause: Lightning

Panorama fire

Started **July 31**, northeast of Carbondale.

Acres burned: 1,700

Cause: Human

Structures lost: Four homes

Cherry Creek fire

Started **August 12** in the Southern Ute Reservation between Cherry Creek and Red Mesa near Durango.

Acres burned: 1,335

Injuries: 1

Cost: \$0.56 m

Shaff #2 fire

Started **August 16**, 4 miles north of Cascade.

Acres burned: 556

Cause: Lightning

Cost: \$0.44 m

Thompson Creek fire

Started **September 5**, six miles Southwest of Carbondale

Acres burned: 171

Cause: Lightning

Cost: \$0.62